



# MEDIA RELEASE

STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **CHILD SUPPORT LICENSE REVOCATION PROGRAM BENEFITS TENNESSEE CHILDREN**

*MANY PARENTS CHOOSE TO PAY UP WHILE OTHERS LOSE LICENSES*

NASHVILLE, Tenn.— Thousands of Tennessee children are receiving needed support because of the Department of Human Services' license revocation program. Nearly 11,000 parents who owed at least \$500 in overdue child support were notified in October that their driver's, professional and recreational licenses were at risk if they didn't fulfill their obligations soon. Many parents got the message.

The Child Support Division credits the collection of more than two and a half million dollars in support to the revocation program. The largest single payment was \$15,700. The average payment was \$179.

"It is unfortunate that these parents refuse to do the right thing for their children," said Human Services Commissioner Gina Lodge. "The license revocation program is a very effective tool in collecting overdue child support, and parents are now getting the message that we're serious. The Department will use all measures at our disposal to make sure the children are supported and those court orders are being followed."

While thousands of parents made arrangements to pay all or part of their overdue child support, others did not. Nearly 3,000 licenses were revoked, including 2,559 driver's and 294 hunting and fishing licenses. Ninety-nine professional licenses issued by the Departments of Commerce and Insurance, Health and Education were also revoked.

State law allows the Tennessee Department of Human Services, which administers the Child Support Program, to revoke the licenses of parents who fail to pay their court-ordered support. Other enforcement tools include administrative wage assignments, liens and tax intercept.

The Department of Human Services has collected more than \$206 million dollars in child support during this current state fiscal year. Collections for the last full fiscal year exceeded more than \$412 million.

For more information on the Child Support Program, visit the DHS website at:

<http://www.state.tn.us/humanserv/child-support.htm>

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